

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 EB-11 OMB-01 EUR-25 COME-00

COA-02 DLOS-07 AGR-20 INT-08 CIEP-03 DRC-01 /189 W

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P 131318Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5994

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CU BF

SUBJ: MIAMI HERALD CALLS BAHAMAS - CUBA TIES "IMMINENT"

REF: (A) SALISBURY-HIGH TELCON, 9-11-74; (B) NASSAU 1583

1. AS PREVIEWED REF A, SEPT 12 MIAMI HERALD FRONTPAGE STORY BY DON BOHNING HEADLINED "TIES NEAR FOR CUBA, BAHAMAS: MOVE EXPECTED WITHIN WEEKS". BOHNING VISITED EMBASSY SEPT 11 AND IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION SAID HEARLD WOULD RUN STORY FOLLOWING DAY. HE SAID HE HAD UNSUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT GCOB CONFIRMATION THAT SIMULTANEOUS FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WERE IMMINENT, AND THAT MINEXTAFF ADDERLEY WOULD ONLY TELL HIM THAT MINISTRY WOULD ISSUE A STATEMENT ON THE MATTER "SHORTLY". BOHNING ASKED WHETHER EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED ANY SPECIFIC INDICATION OF MOVES TO ESTABLISH BAHAMAS-CUBA TIES IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE AND WAS TOLD WE HAD NONE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

2. BOHNING STORY NOTES THAT BAHAMAS NOT OAS MEMBER SO ANY MOVE TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH CUBA WOULD NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT SANCTIONS ISSUE. STORY ALSO POINTS OUT THAT OTHER TWO NON-OAS MEMBERS, CANADA AND GUYANA, ALREADY HAVE RELATIONS WITH CUBA.

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ARTICLE SPECULATES THAT GCOB MOVING TO RELATIONS NOW IN EFFORT

"NOT TO BE LEFT BEHIND IN THE RAPIDLY GROWING SENTIMENT FAVORING CUBA'S REINTEGRATION INTO HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS", AS WELL AS TO ASSIST IN RESOLVING POSSIBLE BILATERAL FISHING AND LOS PROBLEMS WITH CUBA. STORY ALSO ASSERTS THAT "PREVIOUSLY INHIBITING FACTORS" INCLUDED POSSIBILITY THAT AN ACCEPTABLE CUBA MIGHT BECOME A THREAT TO BAHAMIAN TOURIST INDUSTRY AND CONCERN OVER US REACTION TO MOVE (LATTER NOW "DISSIPATED" BY FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON'S RESIGNATION). BOHNING NOTES PREVIOUS ADDERLEY INDICATION THAT BAHAMAS LOOKS AT CUBAN ISSUE "WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A WESTERN HEMISPHERE COUNTRY THAT HAS AN EXISTENCE AND PRESENCE WHICH IS STUPID TO IGNORE, INSTEAD OF AS A MOVE TOWARD ANY IDEOLOGICAL ACCOMMODATION WITH CUBA" (QUOTE ATTRIBUTED TO ADDERLEY).

3. HERALD ARTICLE SUBJECT OF OTHER FLORIDA MEDIA BUT NO NASSAU REACTION REPORTED YET.
WEISS

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Message Attributes

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